

Bangs and Zappey's 'Birds of the Isle of Pines.'—In the 'American Naturalist' for April, 1905,¹ Messrs. Outram Bangs and W. R. Zappey published an annotated list of the birds of the Isle of Pines, off the southwestern end of Cuba, based mainly on Mr. Zappey's collections and field notes made in the spring and early summer of 1904. Use has been made also of the specimens and field notes obtained on the island in July, 1900, by Messrs. William Palmer and J. H. Riley, and of the records previously published by Poey, Cory, and Gundlach. The list contains 120 species and subspecies, of which six are described as new, namely: (1) *Ardea repens* (closely related to *A. occidentalis*), (2) *Grus nesiotis*, (3) *Saurothera merlini decolor*, (4) *Prionotelus temnurus vescus*, (5) *Myadestes eizabeth retrusus*, (6) *Spindalis pretrei pinus*. Besides the notes on habits and distribution there is critical comment on a number of species. The list is thus a summary of our present knowledge of the birds of this now ornithologically fairly well known island, which lies about 60 miles south of Cuba, with an area about equal to that of the state of Rhode Island. The physical aspects of the island are quite fully described, and there are several photographic illustrations and a map.—J. A. A.

Bangs on New American Birds.—In a recent paper² Mr. Bangs has described seven new subspecies of American birds, as follows: (1) *Crypturus soui mustelinus*, from the mountains near Santa Marta, Colombia; (2) *Scardafella inca dialencos*, from the Honduras-Nicaragua boundary, 180 miles from the Pacific coast; (3) *Claravis pretiosa livida*, from the Rio Cauca, Colombia; (4) *Geotrygon martinica digressa*, from Guadeloupe Island, W. I.; (5) *Dacnis cayana callaina*, from Divala, Chiriqui; (6) *Calospiza lavinia cara*, from Ceiba, Honduras; (7) *Phenicotheraupis rubica confinis*, from Yaruca, Honduras. Attention is also called to the preoccupation of the names *Columba squamosa* Temm. & Knip, for which *Scardafella ridgwayi* should be substituted, and of *Columba cinerea* Temm. & Knip, for which *Claravis pretiosa* (Ferrari-Perez) should be adopted. In an earlier paper³ (not previously here noticed) Mr. Bangs has described two subspecies of Tropical American Flycatchers, namely, *Serphophaga cinerea cana*, from the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta, Colombia, and *Todirostrum cinereum finitimum*, from San Juan Bautista, Tabasco, Mexico.—J. A. A.

Thayer and Bangs on the Birds of Gorgona Island, Colombia.—In

¹ Birds of the Isle of Pines. By Outram Bangs and W. R. Zappey. Amer. Nat., Vol. XXXIX, No. 460, April, 1905, pp. 179-215. (Published April 26, 1905.)

² Descriptions of Seven New Subspecies of American Birds. By Outram Bangs. Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, Vol. XVIII, pp. 151-156, June 9, 1905.

³ Two New Subspecies of Tropical American Tyrant Birds, *Ibid.*, Vol. XVII, pp. 113, 114, May 18, 1904.

The Auk' for 1904 (XXI, p. 408) reference was made to an expedition, sent out early in 1904 by the Hon. John E. Thayer for the purpose of exploring some of the little known islands and other parts of Panama and northern South America, he employing therefor the well-known zoölogical collector, Mr. Wilmot W. Brown, Jr. In the present paper¹ we have the first of a series of papers giving the scientific results of the expedition of 1904. Gorgona Island—a heavily wooded, uninhabited islet, five miles long by half a mile wide, situated about twenty miles off Punta las Reyes, Colombia—proved somewhat disappointing, its fauna being poor in both birds and mammals. The rainy season is perennial, and the vegetation so extremely dense as to be almost impenetrable. The island is of volcanic origin, and forms three peaks, the highest and central one having an altitude of about 800 feet. Mr. Brown found birds so scarce that often the result of a whole day's shooting would not exceed ten specimens, and the dampness was so great that artificial heat was necessary to dry the specimens of both birds and mammals to secure their preservation. Mr. Brown remained on the island about two weeks—June 19 to July 2, 1904.

The present paper includes reports on the mammals (by Mr. Bangs—5 species, two of them new), the birds (by Thayer and Bangs), and the reptiles and amphibians (by Thomas Barbour—13 species, four new). Fifteen species of birds were obtained most of them in small series, of which five are characterized as new, namely, *Sula etesiaca* (somewhat intermediate between *S. brewsteri* and *S. leucogastra*), *Urubitinga subtitis*, *Thamnophilus gorgonæ* (near *T. nævius* and *T. ambiguus*), *Cyanerpes gigas*, and *Cæreba gorgonæ*, the two latter apparently very distinct from their nearest allies.—J. A. A.

Nelson on the Names of Certain North American Birds, etc.—Mr. Nelson has recently described a new Whip-poor-will from Mexico (*Antrostomus notabilis*), based on specimens in the Sunnett collections in the American Museum of Natural History, from Victoria, Tamaulipas,² and has revised the names of several North American birds.³ The Booby, commonly known as *Sula sula*, is shown to be not the *Pelecanus sula* Linn. (1766), but should be called *Sula leucogastra* Boddaert (1783).

¹ The Vertebrata of Gorgona Island, Colombia. Bull. Mus. Comp. Zoölogy, Vol. XLVI, No. 5, pp. 87-102, June, 1905. Aves. By John E. Thayer and Outram Bangs, pp. 91-98. (Papers from the John E. Thayer Expedition of 1904, No. 1.)

² Description of a New Species of Whip-poor-will from Mexico. By E. W. Nelson. Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, Vol. XVIII, pp. 111, 112, March 31, 1905.

³ Notes on the Names of certain North American Birds. *Ibid.*, pp. 121-126, April 28, 1905.